



U.S. Mission, Kazakhstan

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Message for U.S. Citizens: Security Alert Regarding Assaults in Kazakhstan 27 February 2013

U.S. Mission Kazakhstan has learned of several recent assaults committed against U.S. citizens in major cities throughout Kazakhstan. In general these assaults have taken place late in the evening at large gathering points popular with foreigners, such as night clubs and shopping malls.

U.S. citizens are reminded to be aware of their physical surroundings outside of their homes at all times. While the incidence of physical assaults in Kazakhstan remains low, situational awareness is essential to avoiding any possible altercations. It is also a good safety practice to carry a cell phone with the numbers for the police and ambulance services preprogrammed for ease of use.

U.S. citizens are reminded to review their personal security plans and remain alert to their surroundings at all times while in Kazakhstan. For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website where the Worldwide Caution, Country Specific Information for Kazakhstan, Travel Warnings, and Travel Alerts, can be found. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook as well. Download our free Smart Traveler iPhone or Android app to have travel information at your fingertips.

Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or for callers outside of the United States and Canada, on a regular toll-line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

U.S. citizens are advised to maintain valid travel documents and enroll with the Department of State or the U.S. Mission Kazakhstan through the State Department's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> website. If you enroll we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements and can also help your family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may enroll directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

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